

**\$5000 VERDICT—HOW WOULD YOU LIKE IT?**

In the early part of October, a suit against one of our members was tried and, against all justice and in face of the law and the facts, the jury awarded a verdict of \$5000 against the doctor.

It is not possible to go into details, but the case arose out of an exploratory operation to differentiate between fibroid and possible pregnancy. The patient did not like the pregnancy nor the 10-pound baby that came in time, and as a result sued the doctor. From this you will see that not all damage suits originate in fracture cases. Of course we will appeal the suit, and in all probability will win it on appeal; but suppose that we do not win it and there is no indemnity fund created! There should be 1000 subscribers to that fund, and if our members will only awake to the necessity of protecting their own interests, there soon will be.

**REPRINTS.**

Once more let us make the statement clearly and definitely, that the JOURNAL has nothing to do with the matter of reprints except to receive the order and transmit it to the printer. No money passes through our hands or our books in connection with reprints. If checks are sent to us, they are either returned to the sender or transmitted to the printer. A question was raised a short time ago as to the increased price for reprints. This is fully explained in another note referring to the increased cost of all materials. As it is, the printer has endeavored to fix a price that will just about pay for the cost of production, making practically no profit whatever on these reprints.

**SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY.**

As a rule scientific societies do not pay much attention to the use of publicity for the purpose of interesting laymen in their work. During the last few months, however, a most remarkable example of activity in the right direction has been shown by Mr. Allen Rogers, chairman of the Press Committee of the American Chemical Society. From week to week, and almost from day to day, he has sent out to a number of publications news items and interesting abstracts of matters relating to chemistry and the chemical industry, most of which are exceedingly readable. It is a pleasure to congratulate Mr. Rogers upon his intelligent energy.

**STATE PASTEURIZATION OF MILK.**

On October 1st, the state law relative to pasteurization of milk went into effect. Some movement of this kind has been needed for a long time, for while it has been possible in the larger cities to demand and secure a fairly clean milk, it has not been possible to do so in the smaller communities.

A most interesting article on the subject of

commercial pasteurization has been prepared by Dr. J. Traun of the Veterinary Laboratory of the University of California, and Dr. G. H. Hart, Veterinarian of the Department of Health of Los Angeles. Those who are interested in the subject can doubtless secure reprints of this article from the authors.

**THE HEALTH OF SACRAMENTO.**

Dr. G. C. Simmons, Commissioner of Public Health and Safety of the City of Sacramento, has been good enough to send the JOURNAL a copy of the annual report of the Health Department for the year ending July 1, 1916. From this report it appears that there were twelve less deaths in that year than in the previous year. The Commissioner points out that the health of the city has been maintained with efficiency under the new system and without the services of a full time paid health officer, with a reduction in cost to the city of over \$5700. The Commissioner is certainly to be congratulated upon his showing, though in all justice to the services of the previous health officer, it might be noted that the city water is still being chlorinated, which undoubtedly has its beneficial effect in the matter of reducing typhoid.

**PHILIP MILLS JONES, ATTORNEY.**

The legal difficulties and troubles of the many members of the Society took up so much time of the Secretary, and it was difficult to get lawyers to understand medicine, that the Secretary had to study Law, and on October 19th, 1916, passed the Bar Examination and was admitted to practice as an Attorney and Counselor at Law, in all the courts of the State.

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WHO PATRONIZE YOUR  
JOURNAL**